

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Seguin Urges Recycling Caution ***Oil Contaminates Eight Tons of June Recyclables***

SEGUIN, Texas – The City of Seguin urges curbside recycling customers to regularly exercise caution when placing items into the recycling containers. In June, hazardous material placed into a recycling container caused the contamination of an entire load of recyclable materials.

Progressive Waste reports that eight tons of recyclable material was contaminated by motor oil on June 24. The oil was inside of a recycling container that was loaded into a recycling truck. The contents of the entire truck were contaminated and had to be hauled to a landfill.

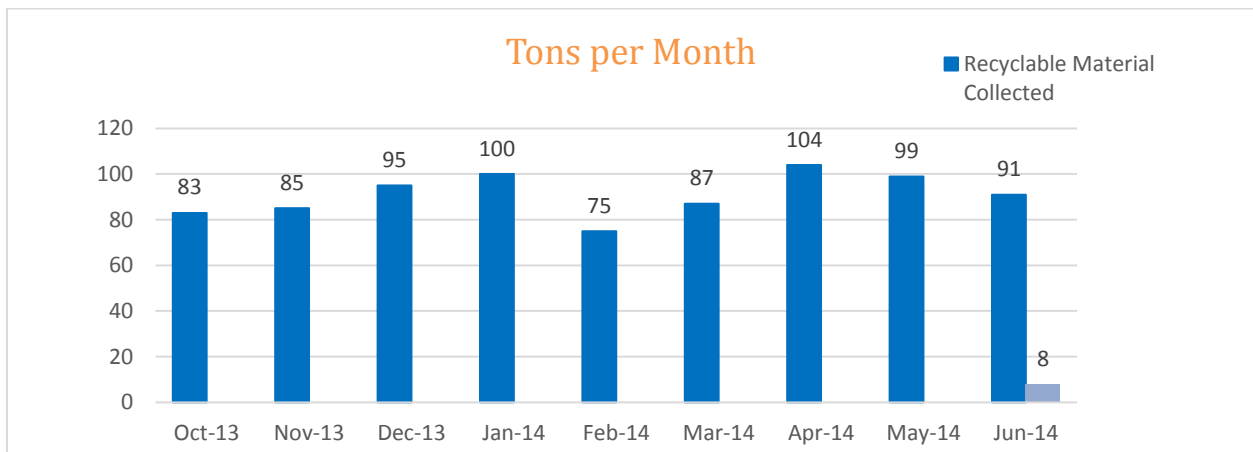
“To some, it may seem harmless to toss a rogue item into a recycling container. We want to make sure people understand that it’s far from harmless,” Seguin Public Information Officer Scott Packard said. “The simple act of placing oil or any other hazardous materials into a recycling container can contaminate an entire load of recyclable materials.”

Texas law and Seguin city ordinance prohibits the improper disposal of oil. A violation of any City of Seguin ordinance may result in fines up to \$2,000. Progressive Waste provided the City of Seguin with the address where the contaminated container was collected. The City of Seguin code compliance officer issued the resident at the home a citation. A court date is pending.

“This incident involved actual motor oil in the recycling container,” Packard continued. “Even empty oil containers can cause contamination, which is why they are not allowed in the recycling bins.”

Motor oil can be properly disposed of at many local auto parts stores and service stations. Residents may also dispose of motor oil at the Guadalupe County Collection Station located at the intersection of FM 78 and Vernell Street in Marion. In addition, residents are encouraged to utilize the Guide to a Greener Seguin. The guide is located on the “garbage/recycling” page under the “residents” tab. Questions about recycling may also be directed to (830) 379-3212.

Below is a depiction of the amount of recyclable material collected by the City of Seguin during the first nine months of the residential curbside recycling program.



About the City of Seguin

Seguin, Texas is located along Interstate 10, about 35 miles east of San Antonio. Seguin is big enough to boast a top-rated university and a state-of-the-art hospital. More than 25,000 residents enjoy a range of cultural, recreational, and employment opportunities. Seguin’s robust diversified economy features a steelmaker, a manufacturer of automotive parts and plants making roadside mowing equipment and building materials. In 2009, Seguin was proud to be selected by Caterpillar as the site of a major new engine manufacturing facility.

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